

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please enter the attached corrected drawings Figs. 1, 4, 10-12, in which reference number "9" and the line are being eliminated in Fig. 1, "HEAD" is being changed into "RECORDING HEAD" in Figs. 4 and 11, "14" is being changed into "4" in Fig. 4, "DRIVER" is being changed into "GENERATING CIRCUIT" in Fig. 4, "GENERATOR" is being changed into "GENERATING CIRCUIT" in Fig. 11, and a legend of "Prior Art" is being added to Figs. 10-12, to replace 1, 4, 10-12 as originally filed. A Letter to Draftsperson is also submitted herewith.

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated November 17, 2004. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

Claims 2-4 and 6-8 are under consideration in this application. Claims 1 and 5 are being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2-4 and 6-8 are being amended, as set forth in the above marked-up presentation of the claim amendments, in order to more particularly define and distinctly claim applicant's invention.

Additional Amendments

The claims and the specification are being amended to correct formal errors and/or to better recite or describe the features of the present invention as claimed. All the amendments are supported by the specification. Applicant hereby submits that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

Formality Rejection

The Title of the Invention was objected to for being non-descriptive, Figs. 10-12 were requested to be labeled as "Prior Art," and the drawings were objected to for various informalities. As indicated, the Title and the drawings (except "2" of Fig. 3) have been amended as required by the Examiner. Applicants would like to point out that "2" is shown in Fig. 11 and described on page 2, second paragraph. As to "12," "20," "21," and "22" in Fig. 3, they are described on page 8, last paragraph (continuing to page 9). Accordingly, the withdrawal of the outstanding informality rejection is in order, and is therefore respectfully solicited.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4 and 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form with all limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims. As the claims are being a

rewritten in independent form with all limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims, they are in condition for allowance.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) on the grounds of being unpatentable over Tanaka et al. (6,128,166) in view of Elliott et al. (6,493,161).

As claims 1 and 5 are being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 2-3 and 6-7 are being amended to depend from the allowed claims 4 and 8 respectively, the rejections thus become moot.

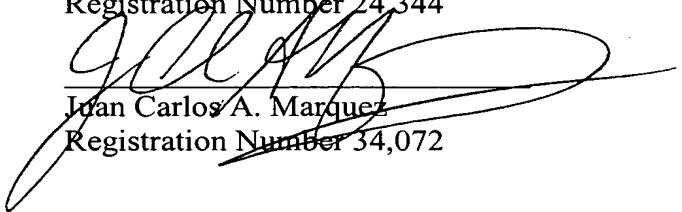
Conclusion

In view of all the above, Applicants respectfully submit that certain clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention as now claimed and the prior art references upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely. These differences are more than sufficient that the present invention as now claimed would not have been anticipated nor rendered obvious given the prior art. Rather, the present invention as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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